

From: John L. Varner
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/11/02 9:43pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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January 12, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft

United States Department of Justice

950 Pennsylvania Avenue

Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

At age 73, and a long-time admirer of Microsoft, I write you with concern over the recent settlement between the Department of Justice and Microsoft. Not only was this negotiation process rational and fair, but also it was well monitored and in the interest of all parties involved. This is why it is ridiculous for it to go under any further scrutiny. After three frustrating years of court battles, it is time to move forward. The greed of professional lawyers and the states objecting to this settlement has become ludicrous.

My experience is limited but I have owned 3 computers and taken about 6 computer courses from Ivy Tech. Microsoft is certainly the leader in development and innovation of records for business. WHERE would industry and our economy be today with the without the technology that for the most part has been pioneered and developed by Microsoft?

The terms that Microsoft and the D.O.J. have agreed upon are productive, detailed and in the interest of the entire IT sector. Microsoft has agreed to design versions of Windows that will allow easier installation of non-Microsoft software. Along with this, they are willing to be monitored by a committee

that will make sure that they follow procedure. The IT sector is ready to move forward and get back to business. Can't we help support our technology industry, and stop any further litigation against this settlement?

Let us allow our software companies to work together in order to maintain our place in the global market. Please help to support the agreement as it is, and let the terms speak for themselves. Please don't shackle and penalize Microsoft further because of it's initiative and hard work to become the leader. The world desperately needs Microsoft's expertise.

Sincerely,

John Varner